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Identical letters dated 2 February 2016 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government and further to our previous letters regarding the repeated violations and aggressions committed by Turkey against the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic, I should like to apprise you of the new aggressions that Turkey has committed against the Syrian people and the sovereignty of Syria and its territorial integrity.

On 29 January 2016, mechanized armed Turkish forces infiltrated the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic in the village of Bustan. They took up a position atop the Tall Ifrit chain, which overlooks the nearby villages, towards Ayn al-Diwar in the Malikiyah area. The hostile forces, which were dispersed over an area more than four kilometres long, set up barbed wire inside Syrian territory and opened fire on the Syrian civilian residents of the nearby villages, gravely injuring a female Syrian civilian.

On 1 February, Turkish Army heavy artillery opened fire on Jabal Atirah, which is located in the northern countryside of Ladhiqiyah city, gravely injuring Syrian civilians and causing a variety of damage to property.

Those two aggressions are a continuation of the Turkish regime's acts of aggression and its practice of providing various forms of military, logistical and material support to armed terrorist groups. The Turkish regime, which has been providing such support for nearly five years, has not hesitated to commit the most heinous criminal acts against Syria and its people, including helping foreign terrorists to enter Syria covertly, establishing training camps for terrorists in Turkish and Syrian territory that are under direct Turkish military and intelligence supervision, providing covering fire for terrorist groups in Syria and arming those groups with the most advanced weaponry. That regime has even provided every form of medical care for terrorists in Turkish territory.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic strongly condemns the repeated crimes and aggression of Turkey against the Syrian people and the territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic. The actions of Turkey are a flagrant violation of the sovereignty of Syria and blatantly contravene the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and all Security Council resolutions concerning counter-terrorism. The Syrian Government reiterates that it reserves its legitimate right to respond to the repeated crimes, violations and

aggressions committed by Turkey, as wells as its right to demand compensation for all damage arising therefrom.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic once again calls on the Security Council to fulfil its responsibility to maintain international peace and security, and to put an end to the above-mentioned crimes that the Turkish regime is committing against the Syrian people and to its repeated aggressions against Syrian territory. The Council must also compel the Turkish regime to implement the Council's resolutions on counter-terrorism.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mounzer **Mounzer**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.